

Washington, DC- Thursday, Congressman Harry Teague announced that the Roswell Police Department and Chaves County Sheriff's Department have jointly been awarded \$55,140 in funding awarded through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG). The funding will be used to purchase updated equipment and networking systems for both the city and county forces.

"The hardworking men and women of Roswell and Chaves County law enforcement will use this funding for essential technology upgrades that will help them better serve our community." said Congressman Harry Teague.

The Roswell Police Department will utilize their portion of the grant to purchase additional laptop computers and to expand the current wireless network that allows the city's police officers to better communicate with each other during their shifts. The network is vital in aiding the officers in detecting crime, responding to calls, and providing dispatchers with the location of marked patrol units at any given time.

The Chaves County Sheriff's Department will receive in-vehicle laptop computers for patrol sergeants. The Department will also use the grant funds to upgrades for existing records management systems that allow the sheriff's departments computers to communicate with the 911 dispatch center's computers and work together instead of separately.

Administered by the Department of Justice, the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Program allows states and units of local governments, including tribes, to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own state and local needs and conditions. Grant funds can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice.